

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 071564
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 INR-07 USIE-00 INRE-00
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DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:RWZIMMERMANN:JC
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-----312315Z 111563 /70
O 312242Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, AR, OVIP (DERIAN, PATRICIA)

SUBJECT: EXCERPT FROM NEWS BRIEFING THURSDAY, MARCH 31,
1977

EXCERPT FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

Q. I HAVE A QUESTION ON ANOTHER ISSUE.

A. SURE.

Q. MS. PATT DERIAN IS NOW IN ARGENTINA.

A. YES, SHE IS.

Q. AND ACCORDING TO THE "POST" TODAY, SHE WAS QUOTED AS
SAYING IN A STAFF MEETING AT THE EMBASSY IN ANSWER TO A
QUESTION ON U.S. MILITARY AID, "WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE
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SELLING THEM THUMBSCREWS ANY MORE, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU
MEAN." ARE YOU AWARE -- I MEAN IS THIS A DIRECT QUOTE,
AND DOES THIS REFLECT U.S. POLICY?

A. WELL, I HAVE JUST SEEN THE NEWS ITEM ON THAT AND I'M
NOT GOING TO TRY TO COMMENT ON WHAT IS REPORTEDLY SAID IN
SOME KIND OF EMBASSY MEETING, JUAN. I CAN'T ADDRESS THAT.

MRS. DERIAN IS ON A FAMILIARIZATION TRIP TO ARGENTINA. SHE'S GOING TO SPEND FIVE DAYS DOWN THERE. HER PURPOSE IS TO CONSULT WITH EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND TO OBTAIN AN APPRECIATION OF THE PROBLEMS IN ARGENTINA. THIS IS HER FIRST TRIP ABROAD. SHE PLANS TO TAKE OTHER TRIPS TO GET FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCE IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES TO GIVE HER A MORE DIRECT UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED THERE.

I CAN'T ADDRESS YOUR SECOND QUESTION. I THINK OUR POLICY WITH REGARD TO HUMAN RIGHTS HAS BEEN STATED MANY TIMES, AND I WOULDN'T WANT TO OFFER ANYTHING NEW IN CONNECTION WITH THE DERIAN VISIT TO ARGENTINA. IT'S, AS I SAY, NOT A NEGOTIATING MISSION OF ANY SORT; IT'S PURELY A FAMILIARIZATION VISIT.

Q. IS SHE GOING TO TALK WITH THE ARGENTINES? YOU MENTIONED U.S. EMBASSY.

A. NO DOUBT SHE WILL MEET WITH VARIOUS ARGENTINIAN OFFICIALS DURING HER FIVE-DAY STAY. THAT WOULD BE PART OF HER FAMILIARIZATION WITH THE PROBLEM AND PART OF HER ATTEMPT TO BECOME MUCH MORE CONVERSANT WITH THE DETAILS OF HER WORK.

Q. COULD YOU TAKE A QUESTION ON WHETHER SHE MADE REMARKS LIKE THIS OR SIMILAR AT THE STAFF MEETING?

A. WE DON'T USUALLY COMMENT ONE WAY OR THE OTHER ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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QUOTED REMARKS FROM INTERNAL MEETINGS IN AN EMBASSY. I DON'T THINK I WILL GET YOU A COMMENT ON THAT, FRANKLY. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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